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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date:** December 19, 2005**Contact:**

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**State Awards \$4.2 Million to
Communities for New Homeownership Opportunities**

SACRAMENTO – California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)

Acting Director Judy Nevis today announced awards of more than \$4.2 million in nine California communities to remove regulatory barriers and increase homeownership.

Awards made today are funded by Proposition 46, the housing bond approved by voters in November 2002.

Nevis stated, "Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak and I are committed to providing solutions for California families to realize the dream of homeownership. Today's awards will help 202 families achieve this dream."

Awards were made through the following HCD programs:

- \$3.7 million through the CalHome Building Equity and Growth in Neighborhoods Program (BEGIN), which makes grants to cities and counties that have reduced regulatory barriers to the construction of new, affordable ownership housing. Barriers can include such constraints as minimum lot or floor area sizes that make housing more expensive. The grants are used to make down payment assistance loans to low- and moderate-income first-time buyers of homes in BEGIN projects.

- \$516,544 for the CalHome Program, Technical Assistance Allocation which awards funds for activities such as construction supervision and training, site and house plan selection, homeownership training and help with building permits and inspections for the development of homes for low or very low income households using the hands-on self-help method of building their own homes.

For further information, please contact: jhuston@hcd.ca.gov

Department of Housing and Community Development

**Home Investment Partnerships Program Total Funds Awarded
2005 Building Equity and Growth in Neighborhoods (BEGIN) Program Total Funds Awarded**

Project County	Project City	Activity/Project	Sponsor Name	Total Amount of Awards	Total Homes
Los Angeles	Los Angeles	Townhome Ownership Program	Enterprise Home Ownership Partners, Inc.	\$990,000	33
Nevada	Truckee	Spring Creek Subdivision	Ciro Mancuso	\$900,000	30
Ventura	Oxnard	Hacienda Guadalupe Townhouse	Cabrillo Economic Development Corp.	\$780,000	26
Sacramento	Sacramento	Acacia Meadows	Communities Housing Opportunities Corp.	\$660,000	22
Santa Clara	San Jose	CIM - Second and Santa Clara	CIM Group	\$450,000	15

Total Begin Funds \$3,780,000 126

CalHome Program, Self-Help Technical Assistance Grants Total Funds Awarded

Project County	Project City	Activity/Project	Sponsor Name	Total Amount of Awards	Total Homes
Sacramento	Sacramento	Building Unity Infill Project	Sacramento Habitat for Humanity, Inc.	\$216,421	14
Mendocino County	Ukiah	Lakewood Homes Phase I	Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation	\$144,123	28
Shasta County	Near Redding	Santa Barbara Estates	Community Housing Improvement Program	\$132,000	33
Santa Clara	San Jose	Willow Street	Silicon Valley Habitat for Humanity, Inc.	\$24,000	1

Total CalHome Funds \$516,544 76